

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In Example [[1]] 2, the information recording medium of the present invention was manufactured in the same manner as Example 1 except that the water-based ink absorbent was prepared according to the following modified formulation.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In Example [[1]] 4, the information recording medium of the present invention was manufactured in the same manner as Example 1 except that the platy press mold (surface roughness: 0.144 μm) made of polypropylene was used instead of the over film.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In Example [[1]] 5, the information recording medium of the present invention was manufactured in the same manner as Example 1 except that a polycarbonate disk (Lexan film manufactured by SP Pacific K.K., thickness: 0.3 mm) being cut into a typical CD size was used as the base material, and a separator paper (manufactured by LINTEC Corporation, surface roughness: 0.2 μm) was used as the cover material. The UV ray was irradiated from the base material side.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In ~~Example~~ Comparison 1, the information recording medium was manufactured in the same manner as Example 1 except that the water-based ink absorbent was prepared according to the following formulation (not containing the silk powder as the water-absorptive filler).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In ~~Example 1~~ Comparison 2, the information recording medium was manufactured by forming the water-based ink absorbing layer without the over film being covered.